

## Comparing

Identifying and articulating similarities and differences  
(1 of 13 thinking/reasoning skill processes)

### Creating a Performance Task

**Step 1:** Identify a content standard to be taught.

**Step 2:** Select thinking/reasoning skill processes.

**Step 3:** Write a 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the task incorporating steps 1 and 2.

**Step 4:** Identify standards from Learner Performance goals (LLL) to be included and revise task to make these standards explicit.

**Step 5:** Identify what kind of product/performance will be produced, add it to the performance task description.

### Questions the Process Helps Explore

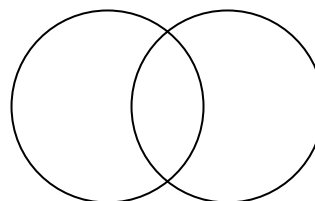
- ☐ How are these alike?
- ☐ How are they different?
- ☐ What is the main idea or what is the most important information?
- ☐ What is the dominant pattern?
- ☐ What are the supporting patterns?
- ☐ What are the supporting pieces?
- ☐ How are the pieces related?

### Steps in the Process

1. Select the items you want to compare.
2. Select the characteristics of the items on which you want to base your comparison.
3. Explain how the items are similar and different with respect to the characteristics you selected.
4. Try to summarize what you have learned.

### Optional Graphic Organizers

<input type="text"/>	€	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	€	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/>



### Teaching a Thinking Skill

- ☐ Introduce skill, give several examples, and discuss its performance (when, where, how to use it).
- ☐ Explain mental processes to do the thinking, model the process.
- ☐ Let students practice the skill several times using personal, easy to understand content.
- ☐ Put the skill into the context of your academic content.
- ☐ Model, model, model!

Name 1    Name 2

Attribute 1		
Attribute 2		
Attribute 3		

Used to show similarities and differences between two things (people, places, ideas, etc.). Key frame questions: What things are being compared? How are they similar? How are they different?